

# BASE - One Year Report



South Dunedin  
Social Sector Trial  
2014



***Vision:***

*Our young people feel*

***valued***

*in their community  
and have the*

***support***

*to reach their full*

***potential.***

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# BASE – One Year Report

## 1. Introduction

I have been involved with BASE since its inception in July 2013 – this has entailed chairing the Advisory Group and helping to steer the focus for the Trial alongside other members. BASE is one of sixteen Social Sector Trials around the country, and part of the second tranche rolled out from July 2013. I have enjoyed the collaborative nature of BASE and the fact that it brings different agencies together around the table to look at what we currently do for young people in our city, and to identify both what we could be doing better and what are the gaps for young people.

Our first action plan, launched in February 2014, was developed quickly and involved significant consultation – we have now achieved a lot of the actions that were in there, and have added new ones along the way. Some standout programmes include BASE Camp for young job seekers and Aspire for school children about to transition to secondary school, helping them to aspire to a great future. The multi-agency work that has taken place in relation to alcohol and other drugs has also been hugely successful and created a range of joined up activities on this important issue.

This report contains details of a lot of other activities that BASE has undertaken over the last year. Plans for the future depend on Ministerial decisions to extend the Trials for a further 2 years to June 2017. I look forward to continuing to be involved and to developing BASE further to make a difference to young people's lives.



Mayor Dave Cull

Chair of the BASE (South Dunedin Social Sector Trial) Advisory Group







*Official launch of the Youth Action Plan, Bathgate Park School, February 2014*

### **BASE – the Logo**

A big thank you to Firebrand for developing a new name and logo for the Social Sector Trial. We wanted something that would appeal to young people and be synonymous with what we are trying to achieve.

After running a long list of names past a number of young people, BASE was chosen for its positive connotations of providing a safe haven and a solid foundation on which to build. The name also has excellent “extension potential”, for example BASE Camp and Youth BASE.



Firebrand then developed three possible logos and young people chose the winning design because of its energy and vibrancy, its sense of empowerment, and the feeling of overcoming obstacles and standing tall.

## BASE Advisory Group Members

Dave Cull	Mayor, Dunedin City Council
John Allen	Regional Commissioner, Ministry of Social Development
Mary-Ann McKibben	Manager, BASE (South Dunedin Social Sector Trial)
LJ Apaipo	Chair, Dunedin City Council Youth Action Committee
Thelma Brown	Portfolio Manager, Public & Population Health, Southern District Health Board
Di Carter	Principal, Queens High School (from November 2014)
Colleen Coop	Otago-Southland Operations Manager, Child, Youth and Family
Mark Crawford	Senior Sergeant, Youth and Community Services, NZ Police
Judith Forbes	Principal, Bayfield High School
Harlene Hayne	Vice-Chancellor, University of Otago
Aaron Hawkins	Councillor, Dunedin City Council
Jinty MacTavish	Councillor, Dunedin City Council
Kim Ma'ia'i	Chair of the Board, Pacific Trust Otago (until September 2014)
Donna Matahaere-Atariki	Chair, Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou
Mary Geary	Manager Education, Ministry of Education (until October 2014)
Kathryn Palmer	Manager Education, Ministry of Education (from October 2014)
Alan Shanks	Executive Officer, Council of Social Services Dunedin
Rebecca Williams	Events and Community Development Manager, Dunedin City Council (observer)
Chris Williamson	Head of School of Social Services, Otago Polytechnic
Gordon Wilson	Manager, Dunedin Secondary Schools Partnership

Friendly  
 Saltwater Pool Fun  
 The Free shop The brightness  
 Family orientated Everything Compact  
 The Warehouse How the community comes together South Dunedin Street Festival Great schools  
 What we LOVE about SOUTH DUNEDIN Space Nice people Kings High Diverse  
 Convenience The Shops Happy  
 The Banks

## 2. Overview by Mary-Ann McKibben, BASE Manager

The aim of the BASE Youth Action Plan, launched in February 2014, was to come up with a set of actions to improve outcomes for young people aged 12 to 18 living in the South Dunedin area. A key part of that task was to bring about collaborative, multi-agency action to build on what was already in place for young people. Consultation with young people and a wide range of stakeholders took place to identify what added value BASE could provide to the many services and activities already in place.

Significant focus has been placed on providing additional support for young people at high risk of adverse outcomes – for example:

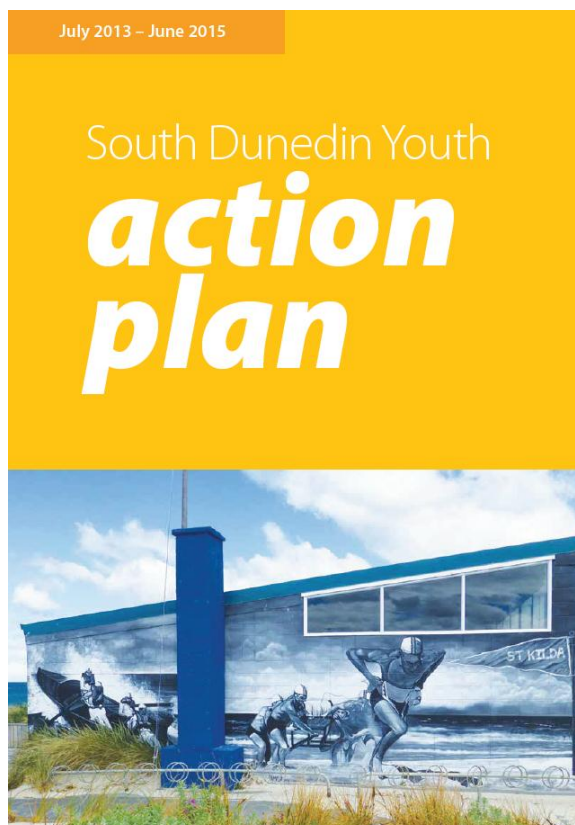
- Providing support and mentoring to those leaving Alternative Education at the age of 16 to plan their future and get into work, training or further education;
- Looking at what additional housing and mental health support is required for young people leaving care at the age of 17;
- Facilitating earlier referrals to specialist services for those with alcohol, drug and mental health issues;
- Providing social work support for families to help them address some of the barriers preventing their children from going to school;
- Providing support to teen parents to enable them to stay on in school and complete their education.

Led by Ōtākou Rūnanga, we have worked with the younger Year 8 age group – who were about to transition to high school - through the Aspire programme, linking pupils from Carisbrook School and Bathgate Park School to university student coaches to introduce them to the world of tertiary education – there is more on this in section 3.

A key part of what BASE is about is getting agencies to work together more closely to make the best use of existing resources, for example:

- The Police, Probation and Child Youth and Family (Youth Justice) all now meet on a regular basis and share information about young people in the criminal justice system – the aim is to plan together what can be done to prevent individual young people from offending again or from ending up in the adult criminal justice system when they turn 17;
- Bringing all those working on alcohol and other drug issues together on a regular basis to plan and co-ordinate programmes of action – this not only generates new ideas and collaborative work, but ensures that everyone is working in a joined up way and not duplicating effort.

A priority area for action has been youth employment given the large number of 16 to 24 year olds with no job or future planned – this is a big issue for Dunedin that urgently requires collaborative action and leadership. Many young people face an uncertain and bleak future without jobs if we do not resolve this situation. Actions led by BASE have included:





- Working with Work and Income to develop a business case for a Youth Employment Hub in South Dunedin to bring together community organisations to address the issue together, make best use of available resources and give a significant number of young people a better future – there is more detail about this in section 5;
- BASE Camp – a motivational programme for job seekers aged 17 to 20 to help them become ready for work, using a combination of fitness and goal setting sessions – see section 4 for more information.

Recently we have begun work on a Youth Voice project, to find creative and effective ways to consult with youth about the issues that concern them and to determine how their needs could be addressed. We also took the opportunity at the South Dunedin Street Festival to run a “graffiti wall” to canvas the wider community about what they love about their part of the city and what they think would make it even better. The DCC was also out collecting ideas on what people want to see in South Dunedin to help develop proposals for a South Dunedin Community Complex. The results of their jellybean poll showed that there was significant support for a youth hub alongside a library and access to the internet.

It has been an incredibly busy 18 months, first developing an action plan and then delivering it, with a wide range of initiatives underway. We appreciate the efforts of the many agencies and services that have led or collaborated on BASE actions. It was a pleasure to welcome Sarah Donald to the BASE team in July, with her post part funded by the New Zealand College of Public Health Medicine and Health Workforce New Zealand, and we look forward to working with even more partners in the future and building on the great initiatives already in place.



*Out and about at the South Dunedin Street Festival, November 2014*



### 3. Aspire Programme

The Aspire Programme is an after-school experience based on the campus of Otago University that connects with Year 8 students about to transition into high school. The Aspire Programme aims to support these students with their academic and social preparation, introduce the opportunities that come with a tertiary education and build the confidence and motivation needed for educational success.

#### **Partners:**

*Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou  
Volunteer Centre, University of Otago  
Otago Community Trust*

Eleven Year 8 students from Carisbrook and Bathgate Park Schools met with volunteer Coaches (university students) for an hour and a half each Friday afternoon for eight weeks in Term 3. Over this time the Year 8s experienced first-hand a wide range of opportunities that could await them after high school, including kickboxing through OUSA, Taiko drumming, cool chemistry experiments and visits to the multi-million dollar Dental Simulation Lab and Anatomy Museum. The participants thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and the inspiration and learning between the Year 8s and their Coaches was mutual.

Aspire participants and their whanau attended a graduation ceremony at the University of Otago's Castle Lecture Theatre in October 2014. Mayor Dave Cull, one of the Patrons of the Aspire Programme, presented certificates to all the Year 8 graduates. The Coaches were presented with a piece of pounamu (greenstone) in appreciation of their contributions to the Aspire Programme. We look forward to running this program again in 2015.



#### 4. BASE Camp

**Partners:**

*Work & Income, Ministry of Social Development  
Dunedin Training Centre  
Otago Polytechnic*

The BASE Camp programme - aimed at supporting young people on a benefit into work or training - started in May 2014. Jointly funded by Work and Income and BASE, the aim was to

create a programme with a big focus on health and well-being alongside career planning. Hannah Grills, a fitness instructor undertaking a Masters in Public Health, originally approached BASE with the idea for a health and fitness initiative to help young people to become work ready, and we combined this with the Turning Point Bridge motivational programme, led by Michael Simmons from Otago Polytechnic, which has an emphasis on setting and implementing career goals. Dunedin Training Centre co-ordinates the programme.

The programme is four weeks long and comprises five morning sessions each week. Three times a week, participants take part in fitness sessions in the Old Caledonian gym (owned by the Council) which has been adapted to accommodate the programme with punchbags and equipment installed. After a shower, the participants make healthy fruit smoothies and then take part in a workshop on a particular health issue, sometimes with outside speakers. Topics have ranged from dealing with stress to eating healthily and to the impact on health of smoking, alcohol and drugs.

Twice a week, sessions focus on career planning with Myers Briggs personality profiling techniques used to help participants identify their strengths and interests, which in turn helps direct them to think about what sort of job they would like to get into, and how to get there. These sessions focus on developing career plans and identifying the steps required to implement those plans.

Referrals are largely received from Work and Income although we have also had referrals from other agencies working with young people. A certain proportion of young people taking part need support with mental health, alcohol or drug issues and so strong links have been made with relevant agencies to provide help. A Work and Income work broker provides support to BASE Camp graduates in finding work experience or a job towards the end of the course. Otago Polytechnic has provided curriculum vitae design support and also tours of their campus, and other training providers have taken part in sessions looking at the careers and training options available.

We were fortunate to have a Health Education Trainee Teacher from the University of Otago complete 150 hours of work experience with BASE Camp, helping to set up and deliver the health and fitness component of the course. Two students from the PE School at Otago Polytechnic have also helped run additional fitness sessions for current BASE Camp students as well as former participants of the programme. We have now formally moved to providing a voluntary fitness extension programme of four weeks beyond the end of the original course - the majority of students want to carry on with the fitness sessions having experienced a real change in how they feel in the initial four weeks.

Our original aim was to adapt the programme as we went along to address barriers or gaps identified, and to ultimately create the best programme possible for supporting young job seekers into employment or training. So far five courses have been run with a total of 51 participants - one of these courses have been specially adapted for students already enrolled on training courses with training providers. The aim is to run another three courses by June 2015 and to review the outcomes that have been achieved to see how many participants are in work or training. An initial analysis of outcomes indicates that 65% of those who have taken part are off benefit and in work or training.



***Building Attitude, Strength and Energy***



## 5. Proposal for a Youth Employment Hub

### **Partners:**

*Work and Income, Ministry of Social Development*

One of the biggest issues facing young people in Dunedin today is unemployment; those who want to work have difficulty finding a job or

lack some of the skills or training required for employment. To help tackle this important obstacle to positive youth outcomes, BASE has proposed the development of a Youth Employment Hub (the Hub), to be based in South Dunedin.

The aim of the Hub is to provide a positive, welcoming environment for young people, and encourage them to proactively engage with the range of services available to address any barriers to employment, education or training - effectively a one-stop shop for young people. The focus of the Hub would be on addressing the obstacles to employment, not on benefit entitlement. The Hub would embody a vision for the wider community that in the future no young person in Dunedin will leave school and need to go on a benefit.

The Hub would provide a positive focal point for the Dunedin community to come together to address youth unemployment and demonstrate to young people that they are valued and that the community wants to support them to be successful members of society. Along with several specialist youth Work Focused Case Managers, representatives from key government and NGO agencies within the community would also be physically located in the Hub to deliver support and assistance to young people to improve their employment outcomes. These agencies and services could include training and education providers, mental health services, drug and alcohol counselling, employer representatives, industry training organisations, internships and apprenticeship support. Young people will benefit from this more supportive and holistic approach, because scientific evidence now suggests that for many young people the brain is not fully developed until their mid-twenties.

Although attendance at the Hub would be required for all youth jobseekers registered with Work and Income in Dunedin, the Hub would be open to all Dunedin-based young people aged 18-24 years, including young parents and teens living independently. In order to create a vibrant environment that engages and attracts young people, no Work and Income branding would be present at the Hub. The Hub would have a distinctive brand, designed to resonate with young people and encourage them to view the Hub as their own. Otago Polytechnic has offered to provide a multi-disciplinary team of staff and students to develop concepts for the brand, and help develop a marketing strategy and the interior design of the Hub. There is also the potential for the Hub to have spin-off activities and spaces attached to it, including a youth space for the younger age group.

A business case was submitted to the Ministry of Social Development to acquire start-up funding for the Hub. Having secured some initial funding from the Ministry, we are determined to demonstrate an impact on youth unemployment figures in Dunedin and ensure a Hub gets funded into the future. Getting young people into work and off a benefit is crucial, because over 40% of today's youth who go on an unemployment benefit are likely to remain on it fifteen years from now. Investing in prevention will save the government money, so we are arguing that investment in the Hub will save money over the longer term.

Once established the Hub would be a community-owned and led initiative, which represents a critical factor to the success of this initiative. A governance group with strong membership from community organisations as well as government agencies would oversee the Hub. This group would include Iwi and Pasifika representation as well as youth representation to ensure the service is meeting the needs of all Dunedin young people.



Key players in the Dunedin community have pledged their support for a Youth Employment Hub, with letters of support received from:

- Careers New Zealand
- The Otago Chamber of Commerce
- Disabled Persons Assembly New Zealand
- Otago Southland Employers Association
- Malcam Charitable Trust
- Mayor of Dunedin
- New Zealand Police
- Otago Community Trust
- Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou
- Pacific Trust Otago
- Probation Services, Dept of Corrections
- Southern District Health Board

*“This significant leadership initiative ... will bring providers and other stakeholders closer together and create a community more capable of making a difference to the youth employment issues faced by Dunedin.”*

Peter McBeth, Regional Southern Manager, Careers NZ

*“The provision of a positive, welcoming environment for young people and encouraging them to proactively engage with a range of youth services to address barriers to employment, education or training can only be good for our rangatahi. Ōtākou is happy to see that emphasis is being placed on the importance of the community owning and leading social development in our rohe...”*

Donna Matahaere-Atariki, Chair, Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou

*“The vision of a positive environment for young people, encouraging engagement with services to address barriers to employment, education and training as a multi-agency and community led initiative is an ideal which Police support.”*

Andrew Coster, District Commander Southern District, NZ Police

*“Given our ongoing concerns about the unacceptable youth unemployment situation in Dunedin we are pleased to formally offer our support for the establishment of the Youth Hub”*

Otago Southland Employers Association

*This initiative will be crucial to supporting the employment outcomes toward which we also strive, and will give South Dunedin a strong resource to support young people to achieve their future aspirations.”*

Raymond Clark, Otago District Manager, Dept of Corrections

## 6. Addressing Alcohol and Other Drugs

### **Partners:**

*Mirror HQ*

*Adventure Development*

*Public Health South, SDHB*

*Well South (formerly Southern PHO)*

*ACC*

*Dunedin City Council*

*NZ Police*

*Kokiri Training Centre*

*Red Cross*

*Youth Specialty Services, SDHB*

*Planning and Funding, SDHB*

Dunedin is well-served by alcohol and other drug (A&D) service providers, who have the capacity to work with a range of young people but tend to be referred young people with moderate to severe substance use issues. Evidence shows that outcomes for youth are improved if interventions occur when problems are less severe. Many of the BASE actions have focused on prevention and facilitating earlier intervention to specialist services.

A multi-agency group was established to take forward actions in the Youth Action Plan around reducing alcohol and other drug use by young

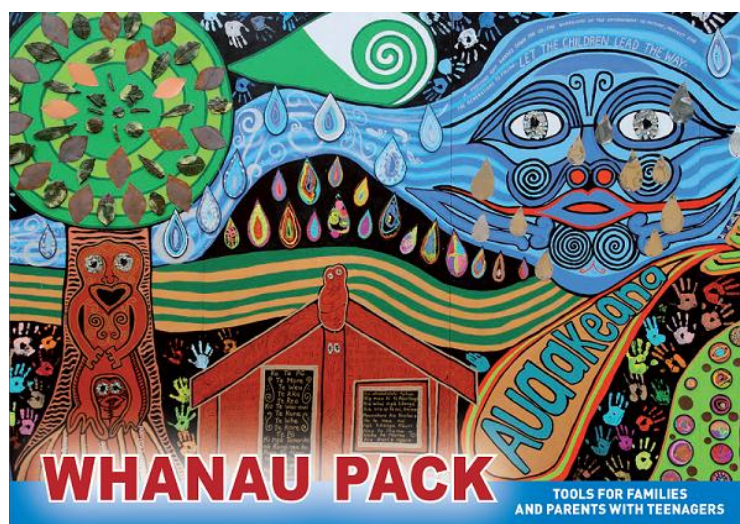
people, and has delivered several initiatives over the past 12 months, including alcohol risk reduction workshops for those working with young people, roll out of a Whanau Pack, a stocktake of schools' needs around alcohol and other drug support and a professional development day for schools.

### **Alcohol Risk Reduction Workshops**

Well South and BASE ran three free workshops in May 2014 aimed at anyone working with young people. Initially two workshops were scheduled, but an extra workshop was held to accommodate the high demand, with 50 participants in total. The workshop explored the physical, psychological, legal and social impacts of alcohol. It focused on developing an understanding of the role of brief interventions to enable young people who do not need specialised treatment to change their drinking behaviour, and demonstrated activities that can be used with young people to explore the risks of alcohol.

### **Whanau Pack for Parents**

As part of a focus on developing campaign messages and materials on alcohol aimed at parents, ACC, Public Health South and the Health Promotion Agency have trialled a Whanau Pack. This booklet provides strategies and information to parents of teenagers, in particular how to communicate about and manage alcohol use. Originally developed in Northland, trialling the Whanau Pack will enable the resource to be adapted to meet local needs.



About 5000 Whanau Packs have been distributed through several local organisations and schools. An evaluation of the booklet was undertaken by Public Health South, which showed that it was seen as a valuable resource by both the distributing organisations and parents. The possibility of adapting the Whanau Pack to give it a more Southern feel will be considered in 2015.

## Stocktake of Alcohol and Other Drug Initiatives in High Schools

One of the goals of the multi-agency group is to ensure that school communities are supported to reduce alcohol and other drug use in young people. Public Health South undertook a stocktake of A&D initiatives in six local schools, which helped identify areas where schools would welcome more input. Schools wanted opportunities for professional development on alcohol for their staff, more “bite-sized” snippets of information on alcohol and other drugs for parents to be used in school newsletters and social media, and enhanced engagement with local A&D service providers.

## Professional Development for Schools

In November 2014 Public Health South, Mirror HQ, Adventure Development and the BASE team ran a day of professional development on alcohol for representatives from 17 high schools and alternative education facilities in Otago. Attendees included teachers, Heads of Health, guidance counsellors and school senior management. The idea of adopting this ‘whole school’ approach was to start cross-school conversations and enable those attending to bring about positive changes in all aspects of school activity including delivering effective alcohol education in the school curriculum, ensuring adequate school based support is in place and updating or developing robust and transparent policies.

Ben Birks Ang, Youth Advisor from the New Zealand Drug Foundation and Odyssey House in Auckland, led discussion on the impact of substance use on adolescent brains and effective ways to approach drug education in schools. Diana Leonard from Taieri College spoke about how alcohol and other drug education was incorporated into the curriculum at her school, both within and outside the health program. Representatives from the three local alcohol and other drug agencies outlined their services and what they can provide to young people who need help. The day was a great success, and planning is underway for a second day of professional development in 2015.



*Whole School Professional Development Day at Chisholm Park Golf Club, November 25, 2014.*



## **Ministry of Health Funding for Alcohol and Other Drug Initiatives**

The Ministry of Health has provided one-off funding of \$63,000 to support alcohol and other drug initiatives within the Social Sector Trial, with a focus on prevention and early intervention. In order to ensure that local needs and priorities are addressed, BASE met with local stakeholders to decide how the funds would be used. Four initiatives will roll out in 2015, designed to get young people into existing local services at an earlier stage, to promote better long term outcomes and make the best use of specialist service capacity.

- A collaboration between schools, Police and A&D services to develop a school-based program for Year 10 students using a range of existing resources including "Making the Link". Unlike more traditional A&D education, "Making the Link" focuses on promoting help-seeking behaviour in youth, to empower young people to access help for risky drinking and other problems related to alcohol and drug use by themselves and their peers;
- Training workshops on delivering brief interventions, aimed at anyone who works with young people to encourage behaviour change and earlier referral to A&D services where appropriate;
- A "Champions" professional development program for key individuals within youth-focused organisations that have a strong interest in reducing substance related harm in young people;
- A second day of Whole School Professional Development for schools on Alcohol and Other Drugs.

## **Local Alcohol Policy Submission**

BASE submitted comments on the Dunedin City Council's draft Local Alcohol Policy. We supported their efforts to increase controls to reduce alcohol-related harm, which can benefit young people both directly and indirectly – through decreased likelihood of intoxication or exposure to alcohol-related assaults, as well as by shaping social norms around acceptable levels of consumption.





## 7. “Show and Tell” Workshop Series

### Partners:

Community Investment, MSD  
Council of Social Services Dunedin

There is increasing need for social service agencies to be able to demonstrate the effectiveness of their service delivery and positive outcomes for their clients. The Council of Social Services Dunedin, the Community Investment arm of the Ministry of Social Development and BASE have organised a series of workshops designed to help build a “community of practice” - a group of local agencies with a good understanding of what outcomes should be measured, how this can be undertaken, and how the evaluation results can be used to guide improvements in practice. Three workshops were held in 2014, with the series continuing in 2015.

The first workshop was held in August 2014. Six local organisations who are already undertaking monitoring and evaluation activities shared their experiences with around 45 workshop attendees.

The speakers represented a range of different organisations from small to large, and demonstrated the variety of evaluation practices currently in use locally. Attendees from similar-sized organisations could see how these practices might be implemented in their own organisation.

The second workshop, an IT Trade Expo, was held in October 2014. The focus of this workshop was on how different electronic client management systems can assist organisations to collect and analyse the data they need to improve client outcomes, as well as simplify reporting obligations to funders. The day was a success, with six IT providers highlighting their products to attendees from 25 different organisations across Otago and Southland.

The third workshop was held in December, and looked at Results Based Accountability – Beyond the Basics. Around 20 people explored ways their organisation could use a simple, common sense framework to keep the focus on the outcomes of their work with communities, whānau, families and clients.

Feedback from all three workshops has been overwhelmingly positive. Many attendees have found the real-life examples of how evaluation practices have been embedded into organisations extremely helpful, and have signalled an intention to make changes to the way in which their organisation undertakes evaluation. More workshops will be on offer throughout 2015 - suggested topics for future events include population accountability, guidance around how organisations can assess their own needs and requirements, and how funding for IT systems can be obtained.

Show and Tell Series: Open Forum  
**Monitoring and Evaluation**  
“Making a Difference”

MEASURE  
IMPROVE ASSESS

21 August 2014  
1 till 4pm  
Waipori Room, Community Link  
(Corner of Castle and St Andrew Streets)

**RSVP ESSENTIAL**

Come and hear what Dunedin agencies are up to. Learn from their experience and share your own.

Organisations sharing their perspective include:

Methodist Mission Southern PACT Catholic Social Services  
Presbyterian Support Otago Otago Pregnancy Help

Ministry of Social Development  
Council of Social Services Dunedin  
BASE

Please RSVP through Council of Social Services  
Dunedin's Calendar  
<http://www.councilofsocalservices.org.nz/calendar>

**My RBA Snapshot**

**From Ends to Means**  
Change our thinking and approach - from what we do, to what we achieve

**2** Types of accountability plus language discipline:  
Population accountability – results / outcomes and indicators  
Performance accountability – performance measures

**3** Types of Performance Measures  
How much did we do?  
How well did we do it?  
Is anyone better off?

**7** Questions that take you from talk to action  
From ends to means – baselines and turning the curve, to make life better for our families / whānau, children / tamariki, and communities.

## 8. Website and Database



The BASE website is currently under development, and will be launched soon.

**Partners:**  
Council of Social Services  
Dunedin  
Otago Polytechnic

The website will feature updates of the latest events and activities occurring in the South Dunedin Social Sector Trial, and is a great way to maintain links with the South Dunedin community.

One of the most important aspects of the website is the searchable database that young people can use to identify the services and agencies they can turn to for help. A range of local and national support services are listed in the database covering a wide variety of issues such as career advice, drugs and alcohol, legal matters, education and training, sexuality, healthy relationships and mental health, as well as support for parents.

BASE also connects with young people and the wider community through its Facebook page and Twitter feed.

<http://basedunedin.co.nz>



[www.facebook.com/SDSST](http://www.facebook.com/SDSST)



[@southDSST](https://twitter.com/southDSST)



## 9. Addressing Youth Offending

### **Partners:**

*New Zealand Police  
Child, Youth & Family, Ministry of Social Development  
Community Probation Service  
Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou*

Several BASE initiatives are addressing the issue of youth offending. Weekly meetings are now well established between the Police Youth Aid team and the Youth Justice division of

Child, Youth and Family, in which the more complex individual young offender cases are discussed to develop an appropriate course of action to help prevent future offending. This group also liaises with other partner agencies when required, such as Education and Health, and interacts with appropriate support agencies.

Improved communication is also occurring between Police Youth Aid and the Community Probation Service, to encourage information sharing between the agencies to contribute towards the smoother transition of young offenders, where they continue to offend, to the adult criminal justice system. Liaison is mainly in the form of email and telephone communication but has included face-to-face meetings which will be continued in 2015.

Monitoring of offending, offender demographics and repeat offenders within the Trial area has been conducted throughout 2014. Both the number of youth offenders and the number of offences has reduced in 2014 compared with 2013. The number of repeat offenders (those with 2 or more offences over the calendar year on more than one occasion) residing in the Social Sector Trial area has also reduced over this time frame. Although it is too early to attribute these reductions to any specific intervention, the positive change is very encouraging.

### **Stay Safe**

The Police have developed and delivered a Stay Safe programme to young people aged 16 to 18, which is aimed at discussing issues relating to violence, alcohol and drugs and healthy relationships. The presentation is flexible, with emphasis placed on topics that address the specific needs of the different groups of young people. The sessions are informative, interactive and encourage the young people participating to think about how these issues might be relevant to themselves. To date the Stay Safe programme has been delivered to around 275 young people attending Otago Polytechnic, Kokiri Training Centre, Employment Plus, Dunedin Training Centre and the Probation service. The programme will continue to be delivered in 2015.

### **Māori Wardens Scheme**

#### **Aroha ki Te Tangata - Compassion to all Peoples**

Eleven individuals have started training as Māori Wardens in a collaboration between Te Rūnanga ō Ōtākou and the NZ Police. As part of the local community, the Māori Wardens will support whānau and rangatahi and could be involved in a wide range of activities such as undertaking street patrols, diffusing tensions and unruly behaviour, providing support for Court attendances, as well as having a visible presence in the community for people of any age who are in need of support.



## 10.Arts Projects

### Wilkie Road Wall Art

During May 2014 a previously unattractive concrete wall on Wilkie Road was transformed into a 200 metre long colourful mural. This successful Wall Art project was led by Malcam Trust, with over 70 young people involved in the creation of the mural. The project tied in with Youth Week 2014 and its theme “Be the Change”. The community art project gave young people an opportunity to contribute positively to their community, and fostered a sense of belonging and pride.





## Alcohol Animations

Design and film students at Otago Polytechnic have produced three animated clips portraying messages around harm from alcohol that are relevant to youth. The students fashioned various New Zealand animals out of clay, then brought them to life using sound bites recorded from local teens discussing real life issues with alcohol. The animations are entertaining but also portray the negative impacts of alcohol, and will be available to view on the BASE website shortly.



## PhotoVoice

Young people have a lot to say but aren't always great at saying it, especially to adults. Because young people are the focus of the Social Sector Trial, we want to know their opinions, what they think and what they need. One way of capturing the youth voice is through visual images – photos can portray the good, the bad and the ugly without the young person having to say a word, allowing those who might not otherwise speak up to have their views “heard”. In 2015 we are planning to engage South Dunedin young people in a PhotoVoice project, to explore how they see their community, what they enjoy about it, and what they feel would make it a better place to grow up.



## 11. National Developments

Government has announced the intention in principle to mainstream the original 6 social sector trials and extend the 2nd tranche trials, including BASE, for 2 years to June 2017. The decision will be formalised after the budget - until then it is an “in principle” decision. However, a stream of work is underway to plan permanency for the tranche 1 trials to enable them to become business as usual as soon as possible after a formal decision is made, should that decision be positive.

A national data and evaluation programme is underway to more accurately measure the impact of the Social Sector Trials at both individual and community levels. The results of this programme should start to become available in early to mid-2015.

## **12. New Actions for 2015**

### **Mindfulness**

Mindfulness is the practice of focusing one's attention on what is immediately occurring - the feelings and sensations of the present moment. Being "mindful" has been shown in research studies to improve anxiety, stress and depression, and promote well-being. A pilot program of Mindfulness in Schools run by the Mental Health Foundation found that, after an eight-week program, primary school students were less stressed and showed improvements in focus & attention, conflict resolution and development of positive relationships.

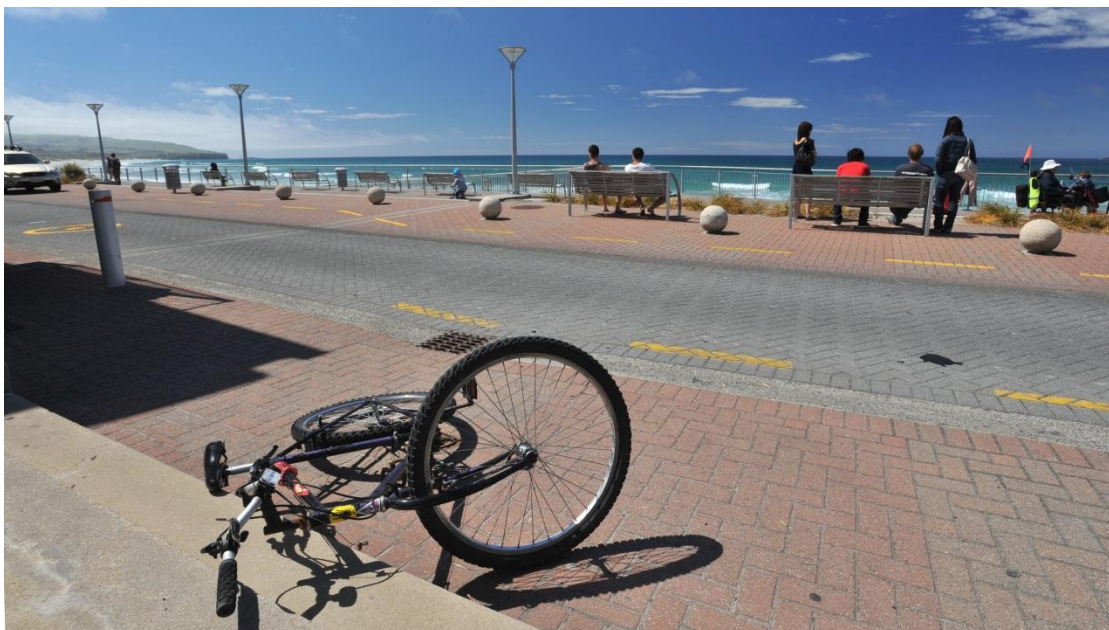
BASE is currently working with Public Health South and the Mental Health Foundation to incorporate a Mindfulness initiative into our Action Plan for 2015.

### **Sexual Health and Relationships Workshops**

The changes that come with adolescence can be exciting, confusing, stressful and sometimes overwhelming. BASE wants to support people who work with youth to be better equipped to help young people face these challenges. We are organising workshops with Family Planning and Public Health South early in 2015 to help people feel more confident to support positive sexual health and development in young people. One workshop will go back to basics, to provide a solid background for those who are relatively inexperienced in this area. The other workshop will be aimed at those with more skills but who would appreciate a refresher course to ensure they are equipped with the most up to date information.

### **Red Cross 'Save a Mate' Program**

The BASE multi-agency alcohol and drug group and the Red Cross are in discussion about establishing a Save a Mate Peer Support program aimed at reducing the impact of alcohol and drugs on young people attending events. A team of volunteers will be trained to provide a peer support service for young people affected by alcohol and drugs, offering a safe place, first aid and psychosocial support if required. The idea is to free up the first aid tent from young people who need to be kept an eye on but don't need any other medical assistance. Volunteers will also act as "spotters" to identify people who may require first aid attention.



## **Think Differently Workshops**

BASE is working with the Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA) Dunedin to run a series of workshops to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and support positive social change. DPA have succeeded in securing funding from the MSD Think Differently “Making a Difference” fund. Think Differently is a social change campaign to encourage and support a fundamental shift in attitudes and behaviour towards disabled people. It focuses on what people can do rather than what they can’t.

DPA will be collaborating with BASE to run two workshops – the first in early 2015 will be on employment for disabled people, with an emphasis on younger people transitioning from school and tertiary study or training to employment. A follow up workshop will focus on education and achievement. DPA will also run a third workshop on the theme of Accessible Dunedin. We will engage a wide range of partners in the workshops and identify concrete actions that can be implemented to make a difference.



## **Anti-Bullying Project**

The Dunedin Collaboration Against Family Violence, in conjunction with BASE, was successful in its bid to Te Punanga Haumaru fund, which supports community action to prevent bullying of children and young people. Te Punanga funded projects are encouraged to drive positive change, be collaborative, and involve young people in their planning and implementation. Work is currently underway to agree the details and implementation of the community based project.

## **Housing**

A joint BASE and Child Youth and Family workshop was held in September 2014 to investigate ways to improve transition for young people leaving Care and Protection once they turn 17. Key issues identified included the need for strong liaison with the Youth Service and its advisers to help young people navigate services, links with mental health services, increased engagement with education to protect against adverse outcomes, improved outcome tracking of young people leaving Care and Protection, and safe and affordable housing options.

BASE is keen to explore further whether there are housing issues for the youth population in Dunedin, including young people leaving Care and Protection, and hopes to undertake a needs assessment and develop possible proposals to address any identified local needs.



### 13. Acknowledgements

Thanks to everyone who has supported BASE and the implementation of the first year of our action plan. Thanks to all our partner organisations, our funders and all the many individuals who have given up so much of their own time to support us in delivering specific projects. Thanks also to members of the Advisory Group, past and present, and to the team in the National Social Sector Trials Programme Office.

#### Funders:

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Otago Community Trust  
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Te Punanga Haumarū  
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**6 teen parents supported to stay in education**

**Multi Agency Group established to reduce alcohol and drug use**

**Stay Healthy Stay Safe**  
Police presentation to 275 young people aged 16-18

**Think Differently Fund**  
Supported Disabled Persons Assembly to secure funding for 3 workshops in 2015 to promote positive social change for people with disabilities

**SUBMITTED on the DCC's Local Alcohol Plan**

**BASE Camp**  
51 young jobseekers participated in a program to get physically fit and work ready.

**BASE Face Book Page**

**22 young job seekers** to attend Balclutha's **Ready, Steady, Work** program

**Youth Employment Hub** to be established in South Dunedin

**20 articles in our monthly column Bringing Up Teens**  
The STAR

**Social workers supporting 17 FAMILIES to keep kids in education**

**Workshop on supporting Young People leaving Care and Protection**

**Inter-agency collaboration for smoother transition from Youth Justice to Probation**

**11 volunteers training as Māori Wardens** to support Whānau and Rangitahi

**Just One Punch**  
A teaching resource for NZ Police to reduce alcohol related violence

**Working with Dunedin Collaboration Against Family Violence to gain funding for a community ANTI-BULLYING PROJECT**

**BASE WEBSITE**

**11 participants and 12 volunteer coaches in the Aspire Program**  
After school program for Year 8 students. Mentoring, tutoring and experiencing a range of opportunities at Otago University

**Southern PHO ran 3 Alcohol Risk Reduction Workshops**  
attended by over 50 professionals who work with young people

**SOUTH DUNEDIN SOCIAL SECTOR TRIAL**  
5 government agencies working together with local organisations to help young people aged 12-18:  
• stay in school  
• reduce alcohol & drug use  
• reduce offending  
• move into work or further training

**Extended Wrap-AROUND service for Youth leaving ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION**